a discriminating unit adapted to evaluate the bills, the discriminating unit including a detector positioned along the transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacle, the discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of the bills and to detect the occurrence of a plurality of error conditions;

a memory adapted to store information associated with a plurality of modes of operation of the device, the memory being designed to store at least one user-defined mode of operation, the user-defined mode of operation being capable of subsequent recall and selection by a user of the evaluation device;

an interface adapted to permit a user of the evaluation device to define the user-defined mode of operation[;], the interface receiving information from the user specifying how the device is to operate including how the plurality of error conditions are to be handled[;], the information being stored in the memory; and

a mode selection element permitting the user to select one of the modes of operation.

164. (New) The evaluation device of claim 157 further comprising a transport mechanism adapted to transport the currency bills from an input receptacle, one at a time, past the detector, to the plurality of output receptacles, wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering a particular one of a plurality of error conditions is stopped before being delivered into one of the plurality of output receptacle such that the bill is located within the transport mechanism.

165. (New) The evaluation device of 157 further comprising a transport mechanism adapted to transport the currency bills from an input receptacle, one at a time, past the detector, to the plurality of output receptacles, wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of a particular one of the plurality of error conditions (1) the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended or (2) a bill triggering the particular error condition should be off-sorted to one of the plurality of output receptacles without suspending operation of the evaluation device.

166. (New) The evaluation device of claim 165 wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that the operation of the evaluation

device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is presented in one of the plurality of output receptacles.

167. (New) The evaluation device of claim 165 wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of the particular error condition the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is stopped before being delivered into one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the bill is located within a transport mechanism of the evaluation device.

168. (New) The evaluation device of claim 157 further comprising a transport mechanism adapted to transport the currency bills, one at a time, from an input receptacle past the detector to the plurality of output receptacles, wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of a particular one of the plurality of error conditions the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is stopped (1) before being delivered into an output receptacle such that the bill is located within the transport mechanism or (2) after being delivered into an output receptacle such that the bill is present in the at least one output receptacle.

169. (New) The evaluation device of claim 158 wherein the interface is adapted to receive information from the user further specifying that the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering one of a plurality of error conditions is stopped before being delivered into the at least one output receptacle such that the bill is located within the transport mechanism.

170. (New) The evaluation device of 158 wherein the at least one output receptacle is a plurality of output receptacles, and wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of a particular one of the plurality of error conditions (1) the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended or (2) a bill triggering the particular error condition should be off-sorted to an output receptacle without suspending operation of the evaluation device.

171. (New) The evaluation device of claim 170 wherein the interface is adapted to permit a user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of the particular error condition the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is presented in one of the plurality of output receptacles.

172. (New) The evaluation device of claim 170 wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of the particular error condition the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is stopped before being delivered to the plurality of output receptacles such that the bill is located within the transport mechanism.

173. (New) The evaluation device of claim 158 wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of a particular one of the plurality of error conditions whether the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is stopped (1) before being delivered to the at least one output receptacle such that the bill is located within the transport mechanism or (2) after being delivered into the at least one output receptacle such that the bill is presented in the at least one output receptacle such that the bill is presented in the at least one output receptacle.

174. (New) A currency evaluation device for receiving a stack of currency bills and rapidly evaluating all the bills in the stack, the device having a plurality of pre-defined modes of operation stored in a memory of the device, each of the plurality of pre-defined modes instructing the device how to operate, the plurality of pre-defined modes of operation including a mixed mode of operation, the mixed mode of operation being adapted to instruct the device to determine the aggregate value of a stack of bills having two or more denominations of bills, the mixed mode of operation including one or more options specifying how to handle the occurrence of one or more error conditions, the device comprising

an input receptacle adapted to receive a stack of bills to be evaluated;

a plurality of output receptacles each adapted to receive bills after evaluation;

a transport mechanism adapted to transport bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle along a transport path to the plurality of output receptacles;

an evaluation unit disposed along the transport path, the evaluation unit adapted to determine information concerning each of the bills including the denomination of each of the bills, the evaluation unit being adapted to detect one or more error conditions;

an interface adapted to permit a user to select one of the options of the mixed mode of operation, the plurality of options including designating that a bill triggering a particular error condition is to be (1) presented in a first one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the operation of the transport mechanism is suspended, (2) presented in a second one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the operation of the transport mechanism is suspended, or (3) off-sorted into the second one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the transport mechanism continues operation, the device being adapted to store a selected option in the memory of the device along with the mixed mode of operation as a user-defined mode of operation in a manner to permit subsequent recall and selection by a user; and

a mode selection element permitting the user to select a mode of operation selected from the group comprising the user-defined mode and the plurality of pre-defined modes including the mixed mode, wherein selection of the user-defined mode automatically recalls the selected option from memory.

175. (New) The device of claim 174 wherein the particular error condition is a no call error condition.

176. (New) The device of claim 174 wherein the particular error condition is a suspect document error condition.

177. (New) A method of evaluating currency bills with a currency evaluation device, the device including a transport mechanism adapted to transport bills, one at a time, from an input receptacle past an evaluation unit to a plurality of output receptacles, the evaluation unit being adapted to determine the denomination of each of the currency bills and to detect one or more error conditions, the device having a plurality of pre-defined modes of operation stored in a memory of the device, each of the plurality of pre-defined modes of operation instructing the device how to operate, the plurality of modes of operation including a mixed mode of operation, the mixed mode of operation being adapted to instruct the device to determine the aggregate value of a stack of bills having two or more denominations of bills,

the mixed mode of operation including one or more options specifying how to handle the occurrence of one or more error conditions, the method comprising:

selecting the mixed mode of operation, via a user interface, from the plurality of modes of operation;

selecting one of the options of the mixed mode of operation via the user interface, the one or more options including designating that a bill triggering a particular error condition is to be (1) presented in a first one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the operation of the transport mechanism is suspended, (2) presented in a second one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the operation of the transport mechanism is suspended, or (3) off-sorted into the second one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the transport mechanism continues operation;

storing the selected option in the memory of the device along with the mixed mode of operation as a user-defined mode of operation in a manner to permit subsequent recall and selection by a user; and

selecting a mode of operation selected from the group comprising the plurality of pre-defined modes including the mixed mode and the user-defined mode, wherein selection of the user-defined mode automatically recalls the selected option from memory.

178. (New) The device of claim 177 wherein the particular error condition is a no call error condition.

179. (New) The device of claim 177 wherein the particular error condition is a suspect document error condition.

180. (New) The device of 177 wherein selecting one of the options of the mixed mode of operation further includes selecting one of the options of the mixed mode of operation specifying how to handle a stacker full condition, the options including (1) suspending operation of the device, or (2) directing bills to a non-full one of the plurality of output receptacles.

181. (New) A currency evaluation device for receiving a stack of currency bills and rapidly evaluating all the bills in the stack, the device comprising:

an input receptacle adapted to receive a stack of bills to be evaluated;

a plurality of output receptacles adapted to receive bills after evaluation;

a transport mechanism adapted to transport bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle along a transport path to the plurality of output receptacles;

an evaluation unit adapted to determine information concerning each of the bills including the denomination of each of the bills, the evaluation unit including a sensor positioned along the transport path, the evaluation unit being adapted to detect one or more error conditions;

a nonvolatile memory adapted to store information associated with a plurality of pre-defined modes of operation of the device, the memory being adapted to store at least one user-defined mode of operation in a manner such that the at least one user-defined mode of operation is capable of subsequent recall and selection by a user of the evaluation device;

an interface adapted to permit a user of the evaluation device to define the user-defined mode of operation, the interface being adapted to receive information from the user specifying criteria for evaluating the bills and specifying to which of output receptacles a bill meeting or failing to meet one or more criteria is to be transported, the information being stored in the nonvolatile memory as a user-defined mode of operation; and

a mode selection element adapted to permit the user to select a mode of operation selected from the group consisting of the plurality of pre-defined mode of operation and the at least one user defined mode of operation.

182. (New) A method of evaluating currency bills with a currency evaluation device, the device including a transport mechanism adapted to transport bills, one at a time, from an input receptacle past an evaluation unit to a plurality of output receptacles, the evaluation unit being adapted to determine the denomination of each of the currency bills and to detect one or more error conditions, the device having a plurality of pre-defined modes of operation stored in a memory of the device, each of the plurality of modes of operation instructing the device how to operate, the method comprising:

defining at least one user-defined mode of operation including specifying criteria for evaluating the bills and specifying to which of the plurality of output receptacles a bill meeting or failing to meet one or more criteria is to be transported;

storing the user-defined mode of operation in the memory of the device in a manner to permit subsequent recall and selection of the user-defined mode of operation by the user of the evaluation device;

permitting a user to select the user-defined mode of operation stored in the memory of the device; and

transporting bills meeting one or more criteria to one of the plurality of output receptacle according to the user-defined mode of operation; and

transporting bills failing to meet one or more criteria to one of the plurality of output receptacle according to the user-defined mode of operation.

183. (New) The method of claim 182 further comprising:

subsequently selecting the user-defined mode of operation;

recalling from the memory the user-defined mode of operation;

transporting bills meeting one or more criteria to one of the plurality of output receptacle according to the user-defined mode of operation; and

transporting bills failing to meet one or more criteria to one of the plurality of output receptacle according to the user-defined mode of operation.

184. (New) A currency evaluation device for receiving a stack of currency bills and rapidly evaluating all the bills in the stack, the device having a plurality of pre-defined modes of operation stored in a memory of the device, each of the plurality of pre-defined modes of operation instructing the device how to operate, the device comprising:

an input receptacle adapted to receive a stack of bills to be evaluated;

a plurality of output receptacle adapted to receive bills after evaluation;

a transport mechanism adapted to transport bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle along a transport path to the at least one output receptacle;

an evaluation unit disposed along the transport path, the evaluation unit adapted to determine information concerning each of the bills including the denomination of each of the bills, the evaluation unit being adapted to detect one or more error conditions;

an interface adapted to permit a user of the evaluation device to define at least one user-defined mode of operation specifying how to operate including how to handle the occurrence of one or more error conditions, the user-defined mode of operation user being

stored in the memory of the device in a manner to permit subsequent recall and selection by a user; and

a mode selection element permitting the user to select a mode of operation selected from the group comprising the plurality of pre-defined modes of operation and the a least one user-define mode of operation.

185. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 184 wherein the interface is adapted to permit a user to define a user-defined mode of operation specifying that a bill triggering a particular error condition is to be presented in a first one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the operation of the transport mechanism is suspended.

186. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 184 wherein the interface is adapted to permit a user to define a user-defined mode of operation specifying that a bill triggering a particular error condition is to be presented in a second one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the operation of the transport mechanism is suspended.

187. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 184 wherein the interface is adapted to permit a user to define a user-defined mode of operation specifying that a bill triggering a particular error condition is to be off-sorted into the second one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the transport mechanism continues operation.

188. (New) A method of evaluating currency bills with a currency evaluation device, the device including a transport mechanism adapted to transport bills, one at a time, from an input receptacle past an evaluation unit to a plurality of output receptacles, the evaluation unit being adapted to determine the denomination of each of the currency bills and to detect one or more error conditions, the device having a plurality of pre-defined modes of operation, each of the plurality of pre-defined modes of operation instructing the device how to operate, the method comprising:

defining at least one user-defined mode of operation specifying how to operate including how to handle the occurrence of one or more error conditions;

storing the user-defined mode of operation in a memory of the device in a manner to permit subsequent recall and selection by a user of the device;